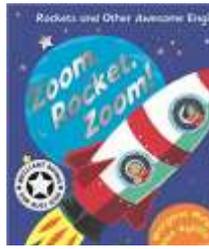


**Dear Reception and Nursery Parents,** here is our topic for this half term. Please use it to aid your own research or bring things into class to support our learning. Have fun!



### As communicators we will:

Listen attentively to stories anticipating key events and responding to what I hear. Develop our own narratives and retell them to our friends. Follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. Show awareness of listeners in conversations and use talk to clarify our thinking. Create 'walkie talkies' to communicate during space missions.

### As readers and writers we will:

We are reading 'The way back home' by Oliver Jeffers, 'On the moon' by Anna Millbourne, 'Whatever next' by Jill Murphy and 'Zoom Rocket Zoom' by Margaret Mayo. Investigate space missions and planets using non-fiction books and the internet.

Write postcards from the sun. Use descriptive language to write moon poems. Writing instructions to make a rocket. Labelling rockets, information about rocket. Writing lists, signs and posters  
Create alien characters and write about them and their planet.  
We will fill in rocket launch checks and write an astronauts diary about our



### As mathematicians we will:

Using numbers 1-20, placing them in order and finding one more or less than a number. We are adding and subtracting numbers using objects. We are learning to solve problems, including doubling and halving. Recognising coins, buying objects to take to space - finding totals.  
Data handling - who's happy to go into space? Favourite treats to take to space. Count and sort aliens according to their features. Number rhymes-5 little men in a flying saucer, countdown to blast off!

### As individuals and friends we will:

Learn how to compromise and take steps to resolve conflict with other children. To understand what makes a good friend. To understand feelings of anger and ways to cope. We will talk about our feelings and fears. Consider the qualities needed to become an astronaut and how we can support others to improve our stamina and bravery.



## Do you want to fly to the moon?



### As artists, actors and musicians:

We will create rockets from junk modelling and cardboard boxes. Design and build a moon buggy. Create space ships outside with crates and tubes, Make models of the moon and planets using papier-mâché. Constellation art. Chalk pastel 'space window'. Make telescopes to see into space. Create moon surface - bubble printing in grey, white and black.  
Act out space stories and make up our own versions. Listen to sounds from space. Make our own space sounds and music and act out stories creating sound effects. Listen to extracts from 'The planets' by Gustav Holst.

### As healthy movers we will:

Handle tools in the classroom safely. Using play dough and clay we will make our hands strong for writing. Form recognisable letters which are correctly formed. Begin to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines.  
We will do astronaut training, strengthening our core muscles and preparing for our mission (NASA-train like an astronaut). These include pilot plank exercises and the commander crunch. We will walk on the moon and think about how it would be different to land. We will walk backwards to improve our co-ordination.

### As explorers and investigators we will

Explore water and the importance of hydration. Taste freeze dried space food and compare it to fresh food. We will think about what makes a good astronaut and whether we would like to be one. We will look at the equipment and space suit. To know that the push to make our rocket fly is a force. Learn about famous astronauts in history Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins, as well as modern astronaut Tim Peake and today's space missions.  
Programme bee bots to move around 'space maps'.

### As effective learners we will:

Persist with challenges and not give up if problems occur. Be proud of how we have accomplished something. Learn how hard an astronaut has to train and how all the hard work pays off.